

Hope Lutheran Church Council
November 9, 2020

“As God’s people, abounding in hope, empowered by the Holy Spirit, we invite all to share in the unfolding experience of Jesus Christ”

Glimpses of God: Mary L-T: Feed My People still doing packing even with the pandemic, great weather last week, Pr. Mary: moments of abundance – already \$160 toward matching grant for hunger, Confirmation happened, Mark: 2 new staff additions. Introduction of new treasurer Ericka Frueh.

Opening Devotions: Pr. Mary: from Tony Dungy. Marking the Seasons. Ecclesiastes 3: a time for everything. Put time with family and friends as a priority. Time is short and people are precious.

Call to Order: 5:31 by President Mark Larson

Roll Call: Ericka Frueh, Mary Luhman-Turner, Jim Henke, Deb Adams, Pr. Mary Erickson, Sue Tietz, Leanne O’Bryan, Mark Larson, Terrie Hanke by phone for Buildings and Grounds

Approval of Minutes: Moved by Sue, 2nd Mary LT. Passed

Additions to the Agenda: None

Old Business:

- Sleep in Heavenly Peace Update: Mark: not much new. Still cannot do deliveries due to COVID. No builds planned until early 2021 due to caution.
- Treasurer Position: Sue T: Ericka Frueh is our new treasurer and has been working with Jim Henke. They have been working together weekly and will continue through January. Jim will be available by phone after that to answer any questions. Clifton, Larson, Allen will be new payroll service and will send payroll to Jim for review for now. Discussion about the process for this. Signers for bank accounts will be changed in December to add Ericka and remove Jim. Any raises or changes in staff salary will be effective February 1 through January, so that they take effect after the annual meeting and are reflected in the budget.
- Audit: Sue Tietz: Finding a date for everyone to be available. Goal is to complete the audit before the December Council meeting. Sue will make sure it gets done.
- Sanctuary Lights: Mark: will contact Butch Martin about renting a lift to replace the bulbs that are burned out. Mark will bring some guys to help with the heavy lifting.
- Building and Grounds: Mark sanded and sealed the new sidewalk. It will wear off from shoveling, but people are less likely to slip than before.
 - Door issue: Terrie Hanke joined the meeting by phone. A bid was received from Valley Builders. Terrie detailed the work needed to be done on the outside doors to the Welcome Area. Recommended maintenance on all exit doors should be done every 2 years. Terrie recommends we do the needed maintenance/repairs soon, so that any unexpected needs can be included in the 2021 budget. There is

money in Capital Improvement Fund to cover the estimated cost. The Council recommended that the office door and the northeast door to Olson Hall be added to the work order. Consensus was to use money from Capital Improvement to pay Valley Builders for the needed work with an amount not to exceed \$2500

- New window is in in Jim's office.
- East Olson Hall windows were washed this fall and will be done twice a year.
- Brian Peterson has repaired the floor outside door 4.
- Hot Water Expansion Tank for Olson and Rachel's Place: Mark: There's a pressure tank that's leaking. We are awaiting estimates for the repair for this. Terrie Hanke left the meeting.
- 2021 Budget Planning: Sue: Trustees need to meet before the next Council meeting to work on budget.

New Business:

- Boy Scout Bankruptcy Case: Congregations who had charter BSA troops may be liable in a law suit stemming from any sexual abuse allegations that arise. We have until November 16 to join the other congregations as defendants in the class action law suit. It was agreed that we should get this form completed and in by 11/16. Sue T will contact James Anderson to see if he can do this or can recommend another attorney.

Reports:

- Pastor's Report:

- Were able to hold in person worship for 3 weeks in October. Confirmation service was done. We were easily able to accommodate the people who came as far as space requirements. Virtual worship is going well. This will probably be necessary for the rest of 2020. Need to plan how to do communion in winter weather. We may need to commune virtually, and the plan is to start this at Thanksgiving. People will have bread and wine at home and partake during the virtual service.
- Confirmation is via Zoom.
- Sue, Ann, Terrie and Pr. Mary have been part of the stewardship education program. The pledge card returns are at 107 as of 11/9. In 2020 we have had 199 giving units, so over 50% have returned cards, which is a good benchmark to have reached.
- ELCA is concerned with local hunger, so there are Daily Bread matching funds available. It's a \$500 matching grant. We have received \$160 from Hope members in the first 24 hours of the matching period.
- The ELCA pastors in town are planning a Service of Lessons and Carols for the Sunday after Christmas. Trinity will put it all together after each church submits its portion.
- To do something special for Christmas, the staff wants to do a luminary drive through at church on 12/16 and put up some decorations to bring some holiday joy.

- Treasurer's Report: Jim: There has been a little decrease in giving during the COVID months, but overall the giving has been going well. Financial picture is good. Jim and Leanne completed the forms for the forgiveness of the Payroll Protection Plan money. Motion to accept report: Deb, 2nd Sue. Passed.

- **Board of Education:** *(Bringing the word to life for kids, getting them to open their Bibles and talk about Jesus)* Did not meet

- **Rachel's Place Board:** Has not met recently. A new dryer was purchased. One of the fuse boxes needs to be labeled. Budget for 2021 includes a wall on the stage where the curtain is and paying for half of the pressure tank for the boiler. No tuition increase for next year, since finances are good for this year. There will be staff salary increases. 4K programs have not received an increase in the 4K tuition for 15 years. Program directors will meet with school district 11/18 to discuss this.

- **Board of Outreach:** *(Continue supporting the ongoing Outreach programs and Be flexible and open to other needs of the church and our community)* Mary L-T: hat and mitten drive going well. Community Table would like some hats and mittens. Remembrance Tree will be handled in the office this year. Tree will be put up in the window as it was last year. WKM are being delivered. 130 completed Days for Girls kits will be taken to El Salvador this week.

-**Board of Trustees:** *(Maintain a balanced budget, Promote financial transparency with the congregation, Communicate financial report to congregation on a regular basis, Increase the number of electronic givers from 30 to 40)* Mark: will meet before the next Council meeting. We need to brainstorm about a virtual annual meeting, or we could possibly do this in person in the sanctuary with spacing.

-**Executive Committee:** *(Being involved and supporting people in the ministries of Hope Lutheran)*

Adjournment and Lord's Prayer: 7:46PM

Respectfully submitted,

Debrah Adams, Executive Board Secretary